***St Ebba's Church Newsheet***

***One of more than 300 congregations in the Scottish Episcopal Church***

***Fort View, Paxton Terrace, Eyemouth, TD14 5EL***

***July 2017***

Since Pat Elliott moved away last year we have had no magazine editor which is a great loss in our ability to keep in touch with all our members and other interested people in the life of St Ebba's. So we hope to produce at least two newsheets a year to keep you all informed.

2016 for St Ebba's was a terrible year losing Dave Garside, Ian Taylor, Anne Garside and Norman Johnson. This year our clergy team has been much depleted as Jennifer Edie has withdrawn temporarily due to ill-health, David Smout died on 27th May and Sheila Cox will be conducting her last service on 27th August, also due to ill-health. But we have soldiered on with the help of Gabrielle Ayerst from Berwick who comes once a month and Tim Morris comes sometimes too. Tim is also keeping our website up-to-date for which we are very grateful. We are now having to use the reserved sacrament about once a month and are lucky to have our two Worship Leaders Richard Oldale and Joan Shelmerdine who both assist the clergy and administer the reserved sacrament when necessary. We still have our band of readers and intercessors, Joan Thomas doing the music and Frankie Taylor as sacristan and not forgetting Simon Furness who faithfully does a lovely flower arrangement each Sunday (apart form Lent).

**Hope for the Future**

You may remember that the congregation approved the plans for our church redevelopment project last November. Well this is moving ahead slowly. Our Parsonage has been sold realising much of the funds for the new development, the old dilapidated hall will be demolished in the Autumn making way for the new extension and car parking spaces. The new extension will house a small meeting room, kitchen, disabled toilet and baby change and storage area. Church pews will be removed making way for flexible social space and more chairs and tables will be purchased. We have applied to the Scottish Landfill Community Fund via Viridor Credits for the maximum £50K grant to aid our completion of this project. Dave Garside had the vision for this project (though it has changed along the way) as the Parsonage and the hall were a huge drain on our resources and would have needed thousands of pounds spent on them to bring up to standard and the Parsonage was only being used for coffee after church and the occasional meeting. Even if we are successful in obtaining the full £50K from Viridor Credits, we still have a shortfall so if you feel you would like to contribute in any way towards the “new St Ebba's” please get in touch with a Vestry member (details below).

***DATES FOR YOUR DIARY***

Sunday 16th July 2-5 p.m. Netherbyres Open Garden Afternoon. Plant Stall and raspberry refreshments.

Sunday 27th August 11 a.m. Eucharist celebrated by Revd Sheila Cox – her last Service.

Come along to say farewell to Sheila. Refreshments in the hall afterwards. (If you are unable to attend on 27th Aug, Sheila is taking all services in August except 13th).

A Sunday in September we hope to have a joint service with Duns congregation.

Saturday 30th September – 10-12 noon Come and help decorate the church.

Sunday 1st October – Harvest Festival. Please bring along donations for the Food Bank - useful tins, packets or cash donations.

***VESTRY CONTACTS***

Interim Rector – Revd Canon Jeffry Smith - 01668 283978

Treasurer - Simon Furness – 018907 50337

Debbie Higson – 018907 71202

Peoples Warden – Richard Oldale – 018907 50939

Lay Representative - Brian Payne – 018907 81825 (Treasurer from November)

Secretary – Frankie Taylor – 018907 51123

Minutes Secretary – Joan Thomas

***Eucharist every Sunday 11.00***

***All Welcome***

***Refreshments in the hall afterwards***

*OSCR number SCO23275 Website www.stebbas.org.uk*